GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:116
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008
EVALUATION OF DEVELOPMENTAL SCHEMES
Meghwal Shri Kailash

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission proposes to have a new evaluation method and mechanism to effectively monitor and implement various developmental schemes during the Eleventh Five Year Plan Period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN)

(a)&(b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) AND (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.116 BY SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL FOR ANSWER ON 05-03-2008 REGARDING EVALUATION OF DEVELOPMENTAL SCHEMES

(a)&(b) : Government has been undertaking evaluation of schemes/ programmes implemented across sectors to assess the impact of these projects/schemes as well as to derive lessons for improvement in programme design. Over the years, public investment in social sector programmes has increased substantially. The Eleventh Plan has allocated a large share of Budgetary Support to programmes in Education, Health, Agriculture, programmes for weaker sections and programmes for creation of infrastructure, especially in rural areas. A major concern is the quality of programme implementation. In this regard, it is to be stated that Planning Commission is making continuous efforts to improve quality of public expenditure in key result areas and enable its proper monitoring. In the context of evaluation emphasis has shifted from traditional implementation based approach to output and outcome oriented approach. The Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) of the Planning Commission undertakes evaluation designed to assess the performance of implementation, effectiveness of the delivery systems and impact of programmes/ schemes. These studies are diagnostic in nature and identify factors contributing to success and/or failures of various programmes and derive lessons for improving the performance of schemes through mid-course corrections and better design for future programmes. It is proposed to upgrade the capacity of the Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) in Planning Commission to meet the increased evaluation requirement of the Government. Emphasis would also be given on networking with evaluation capacity that exists outside government so that robust evaluation findings can be generated. Quality evaluation of various programmes and projects would not only bring improvement in public sector performance but would also address a broad range of issues relating to economy, efficiency, sustainability and relevance of public sector funding and development intervention.